

Grapevine



**Spring has returned.
The Earth is like a child
that knows poems.**

Rainer Maria Rilke

Photo by Glen Nock

Living at the Veterans Home of California in Yountville – April 2008

GRAPEVINE

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❖ Paws with Brandy ❖



“There’s Life in the Old Girl Yet.”

Spring has sprung, and my sap is rising. I don’t feel like a “senior citizen” when blossoms are everywhere and cool breezes ruffle my fur. It’s time for a fresh start and adventures. People can celebrate January 1st if they want, but I say the new year starts when you first smell that tangy breeze and realize, “Winter’s over!”

It’s confirmed when you look up and see all the flowering trees. Their buds swell, then, “Pop!” They burst into bloom, and their scent is everywhere. Even humans can smell the fragrance, and you can treat yourself to a tour. The most spectacular are the clouds of white over section ‘C’ which, because they’re so beautiful, I thought must be dogwood. But, no; Ken in Grounds told me they’re flowering pear. I noticed them in the late afternoon with clouds behind them and, “My, oh, My.”



Malus Augustifolia - Southern Crabtree

I continued around the Alameda and saw a burst of dark pink ... is that ‘cerise’? ... across from Madison. “Aha, dogwood,” I thought and hurried over to look at the marker at the base of the trunk. I can’t read, so I stood and barked at it until a resident stopped. “It says crabapple, Brandy,” he said. Now why would they name anything that pretty after a crab? I continued on my search.

Photos were contributed by Christopher Bond, Glen Nock and Chris Williams.

I lingered in front of section 'A' which always has nice flowers. Members keep their patios looking colorful and cozy. Birds like it there, too. One hummingbird hates me. He buzzes around my head, then hovers and looks me straight in the eye. I figured I'd be safer out in the Alameda, so I trotted back out to where I could see the length of the grounds. I thought it must take dozens of people to keep everything so beautiful, so I asked. Want to take a guess? Five.

I also asked where the dogwood is. "There are two by Annex I; I'll show you." We trotted down the hill, and there they were. I was a little disappointed --they looked lumpy. "Come back in a week or two. They're ready to burst into bloom." Aha! Just like me. Ready to burst into bloom. 🍀



*top: Magnolias by the Recreation Building
left: Magnolia bud right: Crabtree blossoms*

Pinochle Tournament Results:

A record number of players (26) were on hand for the Tuesday evening, March 11 Pinochle Tournament held in the Hospital Recreation Area. Winners are:

1st Place – Dan Goodman & John Hepp. Each was awarded a \$30 Gift Card for Wal-Mart.

2nd Place John "Squeaky" Bolner & Mary Diamond. Each was awarded a \$25 Gift Card for Trader Joe's.

3rd Place – Carolyn Waller & Lou Collier. Each was awarded a \$15 Gift Card for Target.

Pinochle Tournaments are held the second Tuesday of each month. Next tournament will be April 8th at 5:30 pm in the HRA.

AMVETS National Commander visits Veterans Home

By Lou Zauner



Jim Pidgeon, AMVETS California State Commander; John P. Brown, AMVETS National Commander; JP Tremblay, CDVA Dep. Sec. for Communications & Legislation.

On the morning of Tuesday, March 18, AMVETS National Commander John P. Brown, toured the Home accompanied by California State Commander Jim Pidgeon, and 2nd Vice Commander John Byrum; JP Tremblay, CDVA Deputy Secretary for Communications & Legislation; and Jody Price, Home Public Information Officer.

Beginning with a briefing by Occupational Therapist Laurie Joyce (photo right) on



the "It's Never 2 Late" program at Eisenhower Annex, the AMVETS Commanders were escorted to the Pathway Home for a briefing by Executive Director Fred Gusman and then to the Memory Care Center. Following the tour, the dignitaries met with Members of Post 101, Ladies Auxiliary, Allied Council Officers, and Home Staff Members for lunch in the Main Dining Room.

AMVETS is one of the nation's foremost veterans' service organizations. It stands as a strong and influential advocate for America's veterans on important issues such as employment and training, mandatory funding for government-provided health care and other benefits to which veterans are entitled. Commander J.P. Brown said it all in his remarks at the luncheon table, "You Veterans have served us. Now we are here to serve you."



right: Fred Gusman, Executive Director of Pathway Home; AMVETS Commander John P. Brown; Bobby Aguilar, Pathway Home Physical Instructor.



Living at the Veterans Home of California in Yountville

Plant Operations... “Big Time” Maintenance *By Lou Zauner*

The magnitude and scope of the responsibilities of Chief of Plant Operations Bill Hargis, a 30-year Home employee and himself an Army Veteran; becomes apparent as he lists the number of trades involved in keeping top maintenance of the buildings, grounds and transportation of the Veterans Home, Yountville: painters, plumbers, masons, carpenters, sheet-metal workers, electricians,



James Hough, masonry worker tiling a room in Section D.

cians, electronic technicians, locksmiths, mechanics, stationery engineers, transport drivers, window-washers, grounds men and more, including material supply and warehouseman, draftsman and office staff.

With an approximate annual budget of five-million dollars allocated to Plant Operations, Bill Hargis has the heavy obligations of being in charge of nearly 100 employees including six supervisors plus six Home Members.

In brief: Plant Operations is the public works department for the entire facility including buildings and campus. What doesn't involve

Medical, Sanitation or Administration, likely falls under the domain of Plant Operations. And, even those excluded, are in many ways dependent on the skills and work of “Plant Ops.” Water supply, lighting, electrical power, transportation, heating and refrigeration, walkway and street maintenance, carpentry and painting—the list goes on and on—with the responsibilities for safe and efficient functioning of 120 buildings and 200 acres of grounds. Repairs, painting, window-washing, floor-tiling and all else involved in keeping the Home buildings safe and well-maintained is just part of the many responsibilities assigned to Plant Operations.

Wooden pipe displayed in Plant Operations Office – A 6-inch wooden pipe line with spring wire wound around it for reinforcement, one of the original redwood pipes that carried water from Rector Canyon to the Veterans. It was installed sometime before 1900; found and restored in 1987.



Martha Llamas, Office Technician; Bill Hargis, Chief, Plant Operations; Cathy Kingsland, Office Technician.



Tom Holmes, stationery engineer, and Gary Vellenwoeth, painter.

Continued on next page





Jim Kennedy, Supervisor Building Trades; Ted Carrillo, plumber.

Plant Operations continued

Among its vital missions is the water supply, which is piped-in from a State-owned Rector Reservoir near the State Fish and Game facility on Silverado Trail, and then treated at the updated treatment plant for the Home and the Town of Yountville. The partnership is completed with sewage services provided to the Veterans Home by the Town of Yountville. The operation of heating and cooling the water for our use takes place in the Home's boiler rooms. Skilled stationery engineers are on duty twenty- four hours a day, seven days a week; to make certain that the huge, highly-technical boilers and equipment are in service.



Sheet Metal Shop, Bill Hargis

Electrical power and supply is another major responsibility of Plant Ops. PG&E provides the electricity, but the Home's facility becomes a utility company to distribute this power for lighting, machine operations and important life and death services such as medical equipment and fire-alarm systems. Eight generators are maintained as emergency back-ups. Failed lights and vital medical equipment are always of high priority for the electricians. However, the maintenance of electrical wiring and allied equipment demands formidable work and skill.

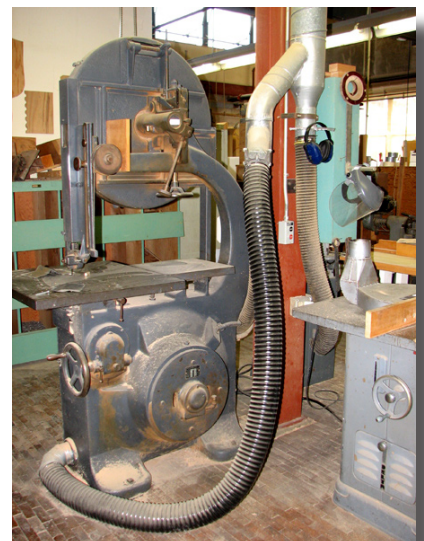
Al Jackson, electrician



Transportation is included in the far-reaching scope of Plant Operations. This includes the ambulances, busses, trucks and all vehicles assigned for transportation and deliveries at the Home. Maintenance of this vehicular equipment involves special mechanical facilities and special trade skills: mechanics, heavy-equipment crews and drivers. Fourteen

Continued on next page

Carpenter Shop



Plant Operations continued

trips a day are made to Napa, with additional bus services to Fort Miley and St. Helena hospitals. Transportation is also responsible for food delivery, and all supplies for the warehouse, Sanitation Department, the Hospital in addition to campus busses for Home Members and for special off-campus events. All this involves an extensive scheduling workload to keep things moving.



Ray Krainert, sheet metal worker

Grounds maintenance is a major priority of Plant Ops. Although extensive road repair, building reconstruction projects and heavy tree-removal and trimming is assigned to outside contractors, Plant Operations is involved in coordinating the ongoing work. They must be involved to keep the premises clean and safe: walkways smoothed by skilled masons, broken concrete removed and replaced, all debris of broken bicycles, carts, automobiles, obsolete and abandoned furniture, and all goods destined for the junkyard must be cleared from the buildings, domiciles and adjacent areas. The grounds and maintenance of the trees and shrubbery, including the spacious cemetery and picnic grounds, is a task that takes time and diligent work.

Electrical Shop



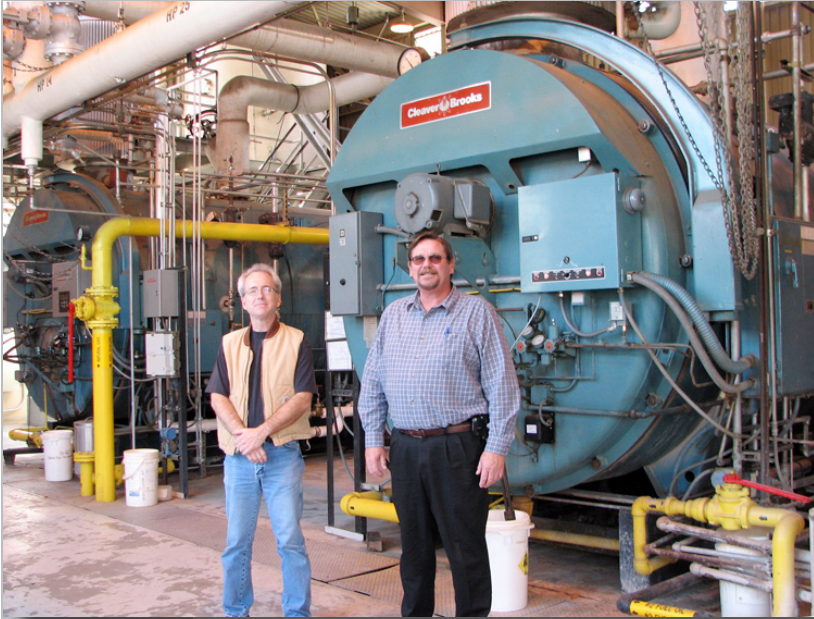
Mike Greeson, electrician



*Bob Ray,
Heavy
Mechanic*

Continued on next page

Plant Operations continued



*Pat Gilleran, Chief Engineer, and
JD Hartman, stationery engineer,
in the Boiler Room.*

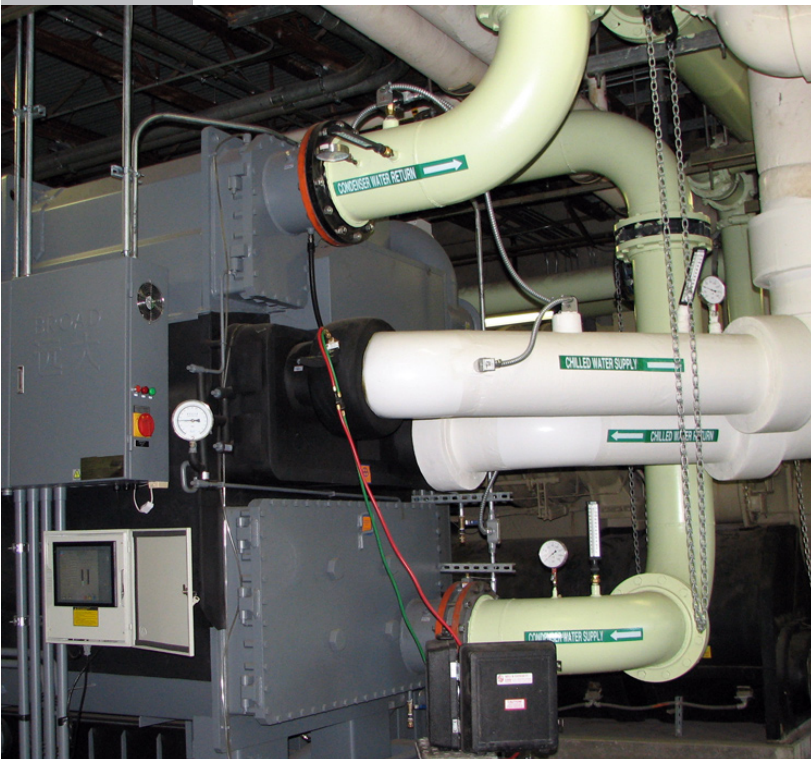
When asked about his thoughts regarding the mission of his complex and gargantuan domain, the Chief of Plant Operations gave a succinct answer: "To maintain the Veterans Home facilities with a safe and a comfortable environment for its Members." Bill Hargis also expressed his wish that all problems could be reconciled on a timely basis. His concern is that Home Members and staff recognize that sometimes work-priority schedules may necessitate a delay with regard to some projects; but he and his staff are dedicated to performing needed work as quickly as possible.

Monday & Tuesday Movies in the HRA April Features

**Monday's
Fred Astaire movies by RKO**



**-note- No movie on Tuesday, April 8 -
Pinochle Tournament in the HRA**



*Heat exchangers and equipment for steam
heating and cooling processes.*

Black History Month celebrated at the Home

By Lou Zauner

The afternoon of Thursday, February 28, was dedicated to honoring the contributions of African-Americans. Home Members, Hospital Residents, Staff and guests were greeted in the Hospital Recreation Area by five special speakers.

Kenneth Leary, Community Services Director, Town of Yountville, introduced the celebration with the history of Black History Month. Black History month is a tradition credited to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the son of former slaves. Following were remarks delivered by John Trice, Home Member; Alan Jessen, Director of Residential Programs; and Barbara Ward, special guest and Deputy Secretary of Women and Minorities, Veterans Affairs. Ward eloquently told the often-forgotten heroic contributions of Black-Americans in the armed services during all conflicts. Home Member Robbie Robinson led the invocation.



left to right:
Barbara Ward,
Alan Jessen,
Kenneth Leary



Next was a magnificent buffet of ethnic food presented by Reggie Mitchell, Executive Chef and Owner of "Razz MA Tazz," Cajun Catering in Martinez, California. Staff and volunteers served the large crowd seated at the tables, but there were still long-long lines waiting for the fantastic food – Jambalaya, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, red beans and rice, collard greens, candied yams, cornbread, buns and butter followed by peach

cobbler and sweet-potato pies, frosted cake and beverages of iced-tea and coffee.

Sincere thanks to all participants of this always-special event and compliments to Chef Reggie Mitchell for an exceptional banquet.



Home Member
Paul Cheatam





A Taste of Yountville

Photos by Nancy Bueno & Lou Zauner

Thanks, Yountville



Compadres



Washington Square



Beard Plaza



Napa Grill



Bistro Jeanty



Pacific Blues



Pan Extasy



Hurley's



Looking Out for #1

Refresh Your Paws

Hand washing can be the first line of defense against many infectious diseases and against respiratory and gastrointestinal disorders ... American Medical Assn., House of Delegates

It's true. Cats are fussy. You should be fussy, too, when it comes to protecting your health. Your best protection is also the easiest – washing your hands properly and appropriately. "Consistent hand hygiene practices are the single best action all of us can take to prevent the spread of illness to ourselves our friends and within our community," says our Infection Control Nurse, Sandra Foley, RN, MSN.

Mostly, people don't scrub often enough. Always, of course, before handling food, and that includes snacks. Even if you can eat just one peanut, it's enough to make you sick if you have germies on your fingers. Always after using the toilet and always before taking medications. Aha! Gotcha! Did you remember that one? Silly to make yourself sick while taking a pill to make yourself well.

Nature did not make us all equal. You humans don't have the helpful rough tongue we felines have, so you have to take some extra steps when paw-washing. Let me run through them:

- Wet hands with warm, running water and turn off faucet.
- Add soap. Any kind. Antibacterial isn't necessary.
- Scrub vigorously for 15 - 20 seconds. The friction helps.
- Get all surfaces – backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails.
- Rinse, keeping fingers pointed down.
- Dry (vigorously, again) with cloth or paper towel.
- Use towel to turn off faucet and open the door when you leave.

Now, let's discuss timing, that 15 - 20 seconds of scrubbing; just sing this song which was written for me:

*Oh, Danny boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling.
From glen to glen, and down the mountain side.
The summer's gone, and all the mice are dying.
'Tis you must go, and I must bide.*

There! You're clean.

Offices have lots of germs, so it is very important to wash your paws often at work ... and doesn't forgot your wrists!



Kith 'n Kin brings Irish Culture and Tradition to the Home

As I Saw It ... by Lou Zauner



For nearly ten years, the sparkling Irish entertainers known as “Kith ‘n Kin” have given a preview of what St. Patrick’s Day is all about. Appearing at the Hospital Recreation Area on Monday, March 10, from 1:30 to 3 pm, the six talented minstrels transported about 100 of us back to days gone-by in the Emerald Isle – land of leprechauns, shamrocks and friendly folk enjoying music, beauty and sensitive relationships.

Surrounded by festive green balloons and decorations, the group brought to the audience blarney, folk-music and lyrics. Master of Ceremonies, guitarist and vocalist Michael Waterson; Ron Brunswick, banjo and vocalist; Ann Gilleran, violinist mandolin and whistle; Suzi Gilbert, percussion and vocalist; Kathy Brutemarkle, Irish drum and vocalist; John Kelley guitarist and vocalist – this group of “Old Sod” entertainers has been together for twenty years.

‘Kith’ and ‘kin’ are derivatives from Old English and German words dating as far back as the 14th century, and basically mean ‘one’s acquaintances and relatives’. Likewise, the lore and music takes us back to years of Irish experiences with love and war, contentment and conflict, humor and sadness. Our Kith ‘n Kin brings us this past with their whimsical and often haunting verbal and musical commentary.

Thank you, ‘good friends and family’, for once again bringing to us your St. Patrick’s Day good wishes.



Original Recipes.



Original Shack.

You Must Present This Flyer!

**DINE & DONATE
FUNDRAISER**

**VETERANS HOME EMPLOYEE
RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM**

&

Mary's Pizza Shack!

Pizzas, pastas, salads! Go to the NAPA
Mary's Pizza Shack (3085 JEFFERSON ST. 257-3300)

**MONDAY APRIL 7TH, 2008 and support
VETS HOME EMPLOYEE RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM**

Twenty percent of sales generated will go to the group.
The fundraiser is for the whole day, but this flyer must be
presented in order for the group to receive the donation.

Make copies and pass them around. People are always
looking for a good excuse to have homemade pizza & pasta!

**Available for Dine-In, Take-Out,
Delivery or Gift Card purchases.**

Sorry, no coupons, discounts or gift cards will be accepted for payment with this fundraiser. This
flyer can't be distributed at the restaurants entrance or its vicinity.

You Must Present This Flyer!

A Great First! Home Member Helper Appreciation Luncheon

By Lou Zauner

"Volunteer Services would like to formally thank all of you for the work that you do to enhance the well-being of the Veterans Home!"



And this is what they did on Thursday, March 6, beginning at 11 am. A hungry crowd of over 150 were served a variety of sandwiches: turkey, ham, chicken salad, tuna salad, egg salad and crab salad. Then there was marshmallow salad, potato salad, ice cream and cake, lemonade and coffee. Food service was provided by Post Fund Enterprises. Tillie Crossman, Kathi Sjøtvedt, Sherri Herbey and a super staff volunteers helped with both table serving and attending the long lines.

Ann Gilleran playing mandolin and violin and Matt Mitman on guitar provided the entertainment. Susan Heims presented appreciative comments, special presentations and acknowledgments to Member Helper Recruiters Bill Brooke and Kern Wright.



This event was the first luncheon specifically honoring and thanking Home Member Helpers who provide a valuable workforce for the Home. They benefit all Home Members and Staff, and provide services which otherwise would not be available.

The Home Member Helper Appreciation Luncheon is now expected to be an annual celebration. This first was most successful in congratulating 100 to 125 Member Helpers able to attend.



Petaluma See's Candy Store brought their pre-Easter candy sale to the Home. Corporate Representative Elise Dickenson, said discounts ranged from 10% to 30% and includes gift certificates. The Petaluma See's Candy Store expects to return before Christmas with appropriate seasonal specialties.



Vote by Mail Assistance Center

Provided by Napa County Registrar of Voters



**Voting
Just Got
Easier!**

The Napa County Election Division will provide a Vote-by-Mail Assistance Center (VAC) for all vote by mail voters at the California Veterans Home on Election Day, Tuesday, June 3, 2008 from 7 am to 8 pm. The VAC will be staffed by a trained poll worker who will have direct computer access to our central voter registration database.

Vote by mail voters at the Home will be able to:

- Drop off their ballots at the VAC if they missed the deadline of May 30, 2008 to return their ballot by mail.
 - Obtain a replacement ballot if they lost or made a mistake on the ballot that was mailed to them on or about May 12, 2008. (Please bring the return envelope even if you lost the ballot.)
- Obtain a Democratic, Republican or American Independent Party ballot if they are a non-partisan voter and did not request the partisan ballot by the post card that was due April 25, 2008.
 - Register to vote for the November 4, 2008 Presidential Election if not already registered.
 - Vote provisionally.

The Vote by Mail Assistance Center will be located in the Administration Building of the Veterans Home. The exact location will be indicated by signs. Hours will be 7 am to 8 pm on Election Day, Tuesday, June 3, 2008.

Honor Flight: Destination WWII Memorial, Washington DC

By Lou Zauner

On Friday, March 21, Susan Barr, Director of Public Relations/Media, and Dick Hum, Home Member, presented a video program about Honor Flight Network and some of its accomplishments. All veterans are invited to submit an application to Honor Flight Network for an all-expense paid mid-summer trip to Washington DC to visit the World War II Memorial honoring "The Greatest Generation" – WWII Veterans.

Applications were available for those who wanted to immediately apply for the flight which is planned for midsummer. Priority is given to the terminally ill and WWII veterans who have never been able to visit their memorial.

For more info contact Honor Flight, Inc. 300 East Auburn Ave. Springfield, OH 45505, or e-mail at info@honorflight.org. Home Members need simply get in touch with Dick Hum, phone 707-9445-4528.

COFFEE SHOP SPECIALS - APRIL 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mar 30 <i>Breakfast Special</i> 2 Egg-Ham & Cheese Omelet; 1 Toast \$ 3.50	Mar 31 <i>Holiday</i> No Special	Apr 1 Fried Chicken & Fries	Apr 2 Sombbrero Salad Rice & Beans	Apr 3 Chicken Strips Fries & Salad	Apr 4 Captains Plate Fries & Cole Slaw	Apr 5 <i>Breakfast Special</i> 1 Pancake; 1 Egg; 2 Sausage Links \$3.50
Apr 6 <i>Hole in One</i> <i>Breakfast Special</i> French Toast @ 1 Egg inside & 2 Sausage Links \$ 3.50	Apr 7 Spaghetti Salad Garlic Bread	Apr 8 Chicken Fried Stk Mashed Potato Veggies	Apr 9 Chicken Burrito Rice Beans	Apr 10 Meatloaf Mashed Potato Veggies	Apr 11 Fried Shrimp Fries Salad	Apr 12 <i>Breakfast Special</i> Huevos Rancheros Tortilla-2 Egg-Beans 1/2 Hash Browns \$ 2.50
Apr 13 <i>Breakfast Special</i> Hot Oatmeal @ Raisin & Brown Sugar \$ 2.50	Apr 14 Lasagna Salad Garlic Bread	Apr 15 Fried Chicken Mashed Potato Veggies	Apr 16 Chile Relleno Rice Beans	Apr 17 Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich & Fries	Apr 18 Crab Salad Sandwich Cole Slaw	Apr 19 <i>Breakfast Special</i> 2 Biscuits @ Gravy 1 Egg \$3.25
Apr 20 <i>Breakfast Special</i> Pigs in a Blanket 2 Pancake @ 2 Sausage Links Inside \$ 4.00	Apr 21 Sloppy Joe Sandwich Fries	Apr 22 Chicken Fried Stk Mashed Potato Veggies	Apr 23 Chicken Fajitas Rice Beans	Apr 24 Hot Pastrami Sandwich Macaroni Salad	Apr 25 Grilled Turkey, Bacon, Swiss Sandwich Potato Salad	Apr 26 <i>Breakfast Special</i> Pancake Sandwich 2 Pancakes 1 Egg \$ 3.25
Apr 27 <i>Breakfast Special</i> 1 Egg, 1 Bacon, 1 Toast, 1/2 Hash Browns \$ 2.75	Apr 28 Italian Meatball Sandwich Pasta Salad	Apr 29 Fried Chicken & Fries	Apr 30 Taco Rice Beans	May 1 Pork Ribs Baked Beans Potato Salad	May 2 Grilled Tuna Sandwich Fries	May 3 <i>Breakfast Special</i> 2 Egg Cheese Omelet Hash Browns \$ 3.50

Homemade Soup daily • Breakfast served till 11:30 • Indoor/Outdoor Seating • Open 7:00 am 1:30 pm for Hot Food • Large Menu to Choose
 From 2 TV's • Tavern Service 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. • Karaoke Friday Night • Lottery 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. daily & 8:00-Noon Weekends

Wireless Telephone Laws FAQs

Two new laws dealing with the use of wireless telephones while driving go into effect July 1, 2008. Below is a list of Frequently Asked Questions concerning these new laws.

Q: When do the new wireless telephone laws take effect?

A: The new laws take effect July 1, 2008

Q: What is the difference between the two laws?

A: The first prohibits all drivers from using a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle. (Vehicle Code (VC) §23123). Motorists 18 and over may use a hands-free device. Drivers under the age of 18 may NOT use a wireless telephone or hands-free device while operating a motor vehicle (VC §23124).

Q: What if I need to use my telephone during an emergency, and I do not have a hands-free device?

A: The law allows a driver to use a wireless telephone to make emergency calls to a law enforcement agency, a medical provider, the fire department, or other emergency services agency.

Q: What are the fines if I'm convicted?

A: The base fine for the FIRST offense is \$20 and \$50 for subsequent convictions. According to the Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedule, with the addition of penalty assessments, a first offense is \$76 and a second offense is \$190.

Q: Will I receive a point on my drivers license if I'm convicted for a violation of the wireless telephone law?

A: NO. The violation is a reportable offense: however, DMV will not assign a violation point.

Q: Will the conviction appear on my driving record?

A: Yes, but the violation point will not be added.

Q: Will there be a grace period when motorists will only get a warning?

A: NO. The law becomes in effect on July 1, 2008. Whether a citation is issued is always at the discretion of the officer based upon his or her determination of the most appropriate remedy for the situation.

Continued on next page





Wireless FAQ continued

Q: Are passengers affected by this law?

A: No. This law only applies to the person driving a motor vehicle.

Q: Do these laws apply to out-of-state drivers whose home states do not have such laws?

A: Yes

Q: Can I be pulled over by a law enforcement officer for using my handheld wireless telephone?

A: YES. A law enforcement officer can pull you over just for this infraction.

Q: What if my phone has a push-to-talk feature, can I use that?

A: No. The law does provide an exception for those operating a commercial motor truck or truck tractor (excluding pickups), implements of husbandry, farm vehicle or tow truck, to use a two-way radio operated by a “push-to-talk” feature.

Q: What other exceptions are there?

A: Operators of an authorized emergency vehicle during the course of employment are exempt as are those motorists operating a vehicle on private property

Drivers 18 and older

Drivers 18 and over will be allowed to use a hands-free device to talk on their wireless telephone while driving. The following FAQs apply to those motorists 18 and over.

Q: Does the new “hands-free” law prohibit you from dialing a wireless telephone while driving or just talking on it?

A: The new law does not prohibit dialing, but drivers are strongly urged not to dial while driving.

Q: Will it be legal to use a Blue Tooth or other earpiece?

A: Yes, however you cannot have BOTH ears covered.

Q: Does the new hands-free law allow you to use the speaker phone function of your wireless telephone while driving?

A: Yes.



Wireless FAQ continued

Q: Does the new “hands-free” law allow drivers 18 and over to text page while driving?

A: The law does not specifically prohibit that, but an officer can pull over and issue a citation to a driver of any age if, in the officer’s opinion, the driver was distracted and not operating the vehicle safely. Text paging while driving is unsafe at any speed and is strongly discouraged.

Drivers under 18

Q: Am I allowed to use my wireless telephone hands free?

A: NO. Drivers under the age of 18 may not use a wireless telephone, pager, laptop or any other electronic communication or mobile services device to speak or text while driving in any manner, even hands free. EXCEPTION: Permitted in emergency situations to call police, fire or medical authorities. (VC §23124).

Q: Why is the law stricter for provisional drivers?

A: Statistics show that teen drivers are more likely than older drivers to be involved in crashes because they lack driving experience and tend to take greater risks. Teen drivers are vulnerable to driving distractions such as talking with passengers, eating or drinking, and talking or texting on wireless phones, which increase the chance of getting involved in serious vehicle crashes.

Q: Can my parents give me permission to allow me to use my wireless telephone while driving?

A: NO. The only exception is an emergency situation that requires you to call a law enforcement agency, a health care provider, the fire department or other emergency agency entity.

Q: Does the law apply to me if I’m an emancipated minor?

A: Yes. The restriction applies to all licensed drivers who are under the age of 18.

Q: If I have my parent(s) or someone age 25 years or older in the car with me, may I use my wireless telephone while driving?

A: NO. You may only use your wireless telephone in an emergency situation.

Continued on next page



Marcella McCormack accepts the donation from Nann Kavanaugh

Small Group -- Big Results Bowling for Dollars

By Chris Williams

The Bowling Club of Pinole is not, as you might guess, a huge group of athletes. No, merely seven or eight people. Busy people. They have dinners and raffles from autumn until February with proceeds destined for one place: the Yountville Veterans Home. This continuing tradition has supported Creative Arts and the bowling lanes in the Member Services Center. While that building is being renovated, they turned their full attention onto the Creative Arts building and liked what they saw.

Our Administrator accepted a generous (and fortuitous) check, proceeds of their efforts. The budget for Creative Arts was cut this year, and the Bowling Club's generosity will insure a continuing flow of supplies. Volunteer Coordinator Susan Heims says "they love the facility and really enjoy coming here and meeting home members." We enjoy their visits, too, and perhaps, when the bowling alley re-opens, they would enjoy a challenge match?

Wireless FAQ continued

Q: Will the restriction appear on my provisional license?

A: No

Q: May I use the hands-free feature while driving if my car has the feature built in?

A: NO. The law prohibits anyone under the age of 18 from using any type of wireless device while driving, except in an emergency situation.

Q: Can a law enforcement officer stop me for using my hands-free device while driving?

A: No. For drivers under the age of 18, this is considered a SECONDARY violation meaning that a law enforcement officer may cite you for using a hands-free wireless phone if you were pulled over for another violation. However, the prohibition against using a handheld wireless telephone while driving is a PRIMARY violation for which a law enforcement officer can pull you over.



Wachovia Email Scam

Several CDVA employees have received emails from “phishers” representing Wachovia and asking that they update their account information on-line. Even though, these email messages appear to be legitimate, there are not. They are, in fact, a “phishing” scam.

If you receive the following email message or one very similar to it, please disregard and delete it.



WACHOVIA

IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

All Users - Must Accept New Digital Security Certificate 2008 (SecurityISO 27001 Certification Consulting)

Customers of numerous banks have been victims of ACH and wire transfer fraud in recent weeks, resulting in the origination of unauthorized ACH entries and wire transfers from customers' computer systems.

Wachovia Enhanced Security Authentication

We have enhanced the Wachovia security access to further safeguard access to your account information.

Starting from tomorrow system of access to work fields is transferred to coding with a certificate. It means that your password and ID will not be changed but will be logged differentially. The only necessary conditions includes the following: you only need to log the first source-certificate which will generate further conversion. Thereto you have to follow the link <http://wc.wachovia.com/online>

<<http://wc.wachovia.ibsIDcmopserver.cmserver.access92734891.default.servletDOLOGIN.verify.cfm.dssf3.com/index.htm>> and enter your access code and ID in the appropriate fields.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that all fields must be filled out, otherwise the system will block escape to the next level and you can not start work with your personal data.

Should all necessary fields be filled in and password and ID concur with those registered in our system, you will get access to the work field. After that your personal identification Certificate will be successfully logged in the system. No other operations from your part are required.

Operation Never Forgotten



Electronic billboard in Las Vegas

A troop-support group in a small southern Michigan town is working to raise public awareness and appreciation for troops and their families. “Operation Never Forgotten” bridges the gap between our military and civilian worlds by creating nonpartisan national awareness advertising for our troops, veterans and their families. ONF campaigns remind

our civilian population of the courage, commitment and sacrifices made by our Troops and their families.

The organization has rolled out more than 500 billboards across America on highways and in airports from Times Square to Los Angeles. The billboards display an unmistakable military theme with phrases encouraging viewers to remember and support the military and their families and the sacrifices they make. For more information, visit the Operation Never Forgotten website at <http://www.operationneverforgotten.org/>.

Last WWI Veteran Honored



Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates talks with guest of honor Frank Buckles, during Pentagon ceremonies, March 6, 2008, unveiling an exhibit of portraits of the last nine veterans of World War I by photographer David DeJonge. Defense Dept. photo by R. D. Ward

Recently Frank Woodruff Buckles, a 105-year-old WWI veteran was honored at a ceremony at the Pentagon for being America’s last living veteran of the first global military conflict. Buckles was a 16-year-old farm boy from Missouri when he fulfilled a dream of becoming a Soldier by enlisting on Aug. 14, 1917. For more information about World War I, including edu-

cational materials, visit the Department of Defense’s The Great War website, a photo essay that includes recent photographs of Mr. Buckles, the National Museum of the United States Air Force’s WWI Fact Sheet, and the WWW Virtual Library’s WWI: The Great War 1914-1918 webpage.

Visit **The Great War** website at http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2008/0308_ww1/

Visit the **National Museum of the United States Air Force’s WWI Fact Sheet** at <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=681>

Visit the **WWW Virtual Library’s WWI: The Great War 1914-1918** webpage at <http://vlib.iue.it/history/mil/ww1.html>

Veterans Also Benefit From Economic Stimulus Payments From the IRS

Economic stimulus payments being issued by the federal government will also benefit some veterans, informs the Internal Revenue Service. In most cases, veterans will not have to do anything extra; simply file a 2007 tax return and wait for their payment. Electronic transfers are the fastest way to receive payments, which begin arriving in May.



“Many veterans who receive benefits from Veterans Affairs are not required to file a tax return. But they need to this year to get the stimulus payment.” said California Department of Veterans Affairs’ Secretary Tom Johnson. “Also, I hope California’s veterans take advantage of direct deposit so they can be among the first to receive their economic stimulus payment.”

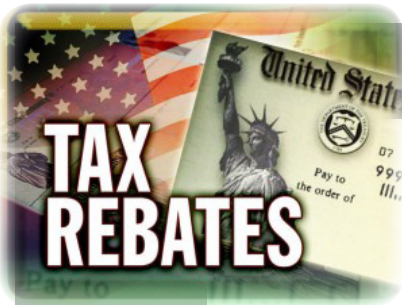
The IRS will use information on the 2007 tax return filed by the taxpayer to determine eligibility and calculate the amount of the stimulus payments. In most cases, the payment will equal the amount of tax liability on the tax return, with a maximum amount of \$600 for individuals (\$1,200 for taxpayers who file a joint return).

The law also allows for payments for select taxpayers who have no tax liability, such as low-income workers or those who receive Social Security benefits or veterans’ disability compensation, pension or survivors’ benefits received from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in 2007. These taxpayers will be eligible to receive a payment of \$300 (\$600 on a joint return) if they had at least \$3,000 of qualifying income.

Qualifying income includes Social Security benefits, certain Railroad Retirement benefits, certain veterans’ benefits and earned income, such as income from wages, salaries, tips and self-employment.

Recipients of Social Security, certain Railroad Retirement and certain veterans’ benefits should report their 2007 benefits on Line 14a of Form 1040A or Line 20a of Form 1040. Taxpayers who already have filed but failed to report these benefits can file an amended return by using Form 1040X. The IRS is working with the Social Security Administration and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that recipients are aware of this issue.

Additional information is available on the Internal Revenue Service’s website at <http://www.irs.gov/irs/article/0,,id=177937,00.html#Vets>



2008 Tax Rebate

Even if you haven't filed in recent years, you can qualify to receive this rebate.

- You must have had \$3,000 of income for 2007, and
- You must file a federal tax return.

Liberty Tax Service can file this return for you free. Drop in or call for an appointment at Liberty Tax Service, 2025 Jefferson Street, Napa. Phone: 255-8186

Tax Rebate: The Basics You must file with IRS to receive the rebate. Rebate checks should now be on their way in May, as the government attempts to jump start the economy and minimize the impact of a recession this year. How much you receive depends on your Gross Adjusted Income for 2007, as stated on the 1040 form you'll send the IRS this spring.

- Most individual taxpayers will receive a \$600 check. Couples will receive \$1,200, with another \$300 per child.
 - Individuals who don't earn enough to file Federal Taxes, but who earn at least \$3,000 a year, will receive a smaller check of \$300.
 - You will receive a smaller check if you earn more than \$75,000, or \$150,000 as a couple filing jointly.
 - The cutoff is \$85,000 a year for individuals, \$174,000 for couples: Beyond that, you no longer qualify for any check.

Again, the good news for lower income consumers who pay no Federal Income Tax, and Seniors on Social Security: they will still be able to receive a check.

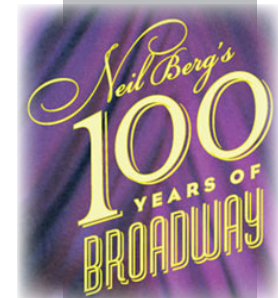
Need Tax Help? Through April 15: Tuesdays & Fridays 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Napa Senior Citizens Center, 1500 Jefferson Street, Napa. Free Courtesy of AARP. Appointment only. Call 255-1800.

Anytime:	H & R Block	Ranch Tax Service
regular	3222 Jefferson St, Napa Grape Yard	4213 Solano Avenue, Napa
charges	Shopping Center	224-5207
	255-9477	

If you have any questions, please call Gay Sherman, Social Work Service, 944-4570, or stop by her office on 3E in Holderman.

The IRS will begin mailing out checks in early May, based on the last digits of your Social Security number (as they did in 2001). All checks should be distributed by August.

Lincoln Theater Schedule for April



Fri, Apr 4 7:00pm **Follies Du Valle** In 1997, the idea of the Follies du Valle sprang up as a fun-and-funds-filled way to raise money for Lincoln Theater. A musical revue starring locals young and old, the tradition has continued past the completion of the theater's complete renovation and transformation. A veritable Napa Valley "who's who" always makes up the cast. Come and see your neighbors shed their shyness and have a great time. You will too.

Sat, Apr 5 2:00pm

Sat, Apr 5 7:00pm

Sun, Apr 6 2:00pm

Fri, Apr 11 8:00pm **Voices of Latin Rock** The roots of Latin Rock began more than 30 years ago in the barrio of San Francisco's Mission District where a new generation of bands melded acid guitar and Latin percussion. The stars of this tour include Jorge Santana and members of Malo, Pablo Cruise, War, Sly and the Family Stone and more! Experience this explosive fusion of Latin, salsa and rock.

Sat, Apr 19 3:00pm **101 Years Of Broadway** 101 Years of Broadway recreates the biggest moments from the biggest shows of the century featuring the actual stars of shows such as The Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables, CATS, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Jekyll & Hyde supported by an all-star New York band. These amazing performers light up the stage with songs from the hit shows in which they starred. Neil Berg presents brilliantly revived arrangements of Broadway classics as well as outstanding numbers from Broadway's newest hit shows.

Sat, Apr 19 8:00pm

Sun, Apr 27 5:00pm **Berkeley Opera - The Elixir Of Love** In its 28th season of presenting opera as lively, compelling musical theater, Berkeley Opera has presented 82 operas by 38 different composers. Gaetano Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love" will have you under its spell! A shy young man, with nothing to his name, falls in love with a rich and beautiful woman. Will a con artist's "magic elixir" be enough to win her affections? Or will true love need to work its magic? In Italian with English supertitles.

April 2008 Programs at the Napa Valley Museum

Sat, Apr 12
9:30am - 2:00pm



Meet at Robert Louis Stevenson Park in Calistoga Hike to the Source of the Napa River with Jonathan Koehler, Napa County Resource Conservation District We'll hike to the south peak of Mount Saint Helena and along the way, observe wildlife and vegetation growing near the headwaters of the Napa River, take in stunning views of the Napa River Watershed and discover the dynamics of this and other watersheds. This is a strenuous 7.6 mile expedition, so bring comfortable hiking footwear, protective clothing, lunch and plenty of water. Free Call 707.944.0500 for reservations

Sat, Apr 19
2:00 - 4:00pm



Understanding the Photography of Pirkle Jones A Discussion with Pirkle Jones, Photographer Pirkle Jones said, "I see photography from many directions. For me this art is an expression of my inner self, and I've never narrowed my work down to just the highly creative, interpretive category." Come meet this 94-year-old photographer and learn how his picture-making approach has been affected by his experiences and discoveries throughout California. Free for members, \$5 for non-members Call 707.944.0500 for reservations

Sat, Apr 26
5:00 - 7:00pm



The Napa Valley Ag Preserve Kiosk Opening Reception In recognition of the Ag Preserve's 40th anniversary Our latest addition to the Land and People of Napa Valley exhibition is sponsored by the Jack L. Davies Napa Valley Agricultural Preservation Fund and will highlight the groundbreaking legislation that established the country's first Agricultural Preserve in 1968. The JVDNVAPF Trustees and the NVM invite you to come learn about this important event in Napa History. Call 707.944.0500 for reservations

Wed, Apr 30
9:00am - 3:00pm



Passport to the Arts Bus Trip to The Legion of Honor Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990-2005 For decades, Annie Leibovitz has captured the icons of popular culture with her award-winning photography. Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990-2005 looks at these photos as well as those she has taken of family and friends, and thus views a full "photographer's life." Leibovitz says: "I don't have two lives. This is one life, and the personal pictures and the assignment work are all part of it." \$48 for members, \$55 for non-members Call 707.944.0500 for reservations and payment



Napa Valley Symphony Classical Concerts: Classical Concert V

Carlo Ponti, guest conductor

**Heidi Melton & Katharine Tier from the San Francisco
Opera Center Pacific Mozart Ensemble**

April 12 at 8 pm & April 13 at 3 pm

Carlo Ponti, Jr., has appeared as a guest conductor with, among others, Orquesta Sinfonica de Galicia, Orquesta de Valencia, Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, Pro Arte Orchestra, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Ural Philharmonic and Moscow Chamber Orchestra.

In 2000 Ponti was appointed the Russian National Orchestra's Associate Conductor. In 2001 he was named Music Director and Principal Conductor of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, a position recently extended through the 2009/2010 season. In this post, he has attracted much attention for his innovative programming, and for raising the artistic level of the orchestra and broadening its audience.

Heidi Melton (first photo to the right of Carlo Ponti, Jr.), soprano, and Katharine Tier, mezzo-soprano, are recipients of the Adler Fellowship of the San Francisco Opera Center. Resident artists of San Francisco Opera, Ms. Melton and Ms. Tier have been featured in *Appomattox*, *The Magic Flute*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Phigeneia in Tauride* and *La Rondine*.

The Pacific Mozart Ensemble is a unique musical resource. Since its founding twenty years ago, Pacific Mozart Ensemble has grown to fill an important role in the cultural life of the Bay Area, presenting courageous and innovative programs of choral works that have never been performed in concert settings.



Residential Care Special Events

Signup is available 2 weeks before event. Sign up early! Activities can fill quickly. All activities are subject to change due to bus and driver availability. Because of limited space for waiting at the Activities Office, we suggest that you sign up for events by telephone at 944-4900 or 944-4901.

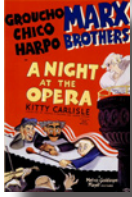
April 2008

Date	Time	Event	Bus	Site	Signup
3 Thu	12:30pm	LeMelange/Library Trip	MDR		Yes
4 Fri	1:30pm	Grant Ave. Follies/Ice Cream Social		HRA	
	7:00pm	Follies DuValle		LT	Yes
5 Sat	9:30am	Santa Anita Racing-Santa Rosa	MDR		Yes
	2:00pm	Follies DuValle		LT	Yes
	7:00pm	Follies DuValle		LT	Yes
6 Sun	2:00pm	Follies DuValle		LT	Yes
8 Tue	5:30pm	Oakland Warrior vs Sac. Kings	MDR		Yes
9 Wed	10:00am	Target/Raley's Shopping	MDR		Yes
11 Fri	10:00am	Fairfield Mall Shopping	MDR		Yes
12 Sat	8:00pm	San Francisco Opera: Carlo Ponti		LT	Yes
13 Sun	10:00am	Sacramento River Cats	MDR		Yes
16 Wed	10:00am	San Francisco Giants vs Arizona	MDR		Yes
17 Thu	12:30pm	LeMelange/Library Trip	MDR		Yes
18 Fri	9:15am	Bunch for Lunch	MDR		Yes
19 Sat	3:00pm	101 Years of Broadway		LT	Yes
	8:00pm	101 Years of Broadway		LT	Yes
20 Sun	7:30am	Senior Center Breakfast-Napa	MDR		Yes
	5:00pm	101 Years of Broadway		LT	Yes
22 Tue	10:00am	Costco/Vallejo Shopping	MDR		Yes
24 Thu	10:00am	Oakland A's vs Minnesoty	MDR		Yes
25 Fri	8:15am	Vallejo Ferry Trip	MDR		Yes
27 Sun	5:00pm	Opera, Elixir of Love		LT	Yes

Key – 1C/1D: Hospital 1C/1D patio; **Bor:** Borman Field; **Chp:** Chapel; **HL:** Hospital Lobby; **HRA:** Hospital Recreation Area; **Lib:** Lincoln Library (Section G basement), **LT:** Lincoln Theater; **MDR:** Main Dining Room; **MPG:** Main Picnic Grounds; **CS/Tav:** Coffee Shop/Tavern (Section G main floor); **VHC:** Veterans Home Cemetery; **VGC:** Vintners Golf Course; **XII:** Annex II; **Ynt:** Yountville; **YVP:** Yountville Veterans Park.

Dix Bruce entertains in April! Watch for flyers!

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY MOVIES IN THE HRA

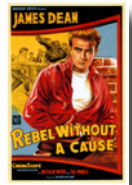


Wed, Apr 2—"Night At The Opera" 1935 classic comedy stars Marx brothers Groucho, Chico and Harpo and Kitty Carlisle. ★★☆☆

Fri, Apr 4—"No Reservations" New (2007) romantic story about two chefs in upscale restaurant. Stars Catherine Zeta-Jones. An above average entertainment



Wed, Apr 9—"Rebel Without A Cause" 1955 powerful drama stars James Dean, Natalie Wood, Dennis Hopper, Sal Mineo and Jim Backus. ★★☆☆



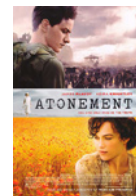
Fri, Apr 11—"Death At A Funeral" New (2007) quirky British comedy about a funeral gone very wrong. Above average entertainment. ADVISORY—mature humor.



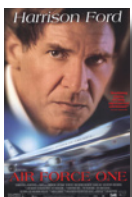
Wed, Apr 16—"Of Mice and Men" 1939 very good movie drama of John Steinbeck's powerful morality tale. Stars Lon Chaney, jr, Burgess Meredith, Betty Field and Charles Bickford. ★★☆☆



Fri, Apr 18—"Atonement" New (2007) romantic drama in England during World War II era. Well acted quality production. ★★☆☆



Wed, Apr 23—"Air Force One" 1997 supercharged thriller. Terrorist take over Air Force One with president aboard. Cast—Harrison Ford, Glen Close, Dean Stockwell and Wm. H. Macy. ★☆☆



Fri, Apr.25—"Dan In Real Life" New (2007) romantic comedy starring Steve Carell. Well crafted movie considered one of best American 2007 films.



Wed, Apr 30—"Dead Man Walking" 1995 powerful drama based on true story of nun as spiritual adviser to death row murderer waiting execution. Stars Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn. ★☆☆



Hosp. Rec. Area
Theater doors
open at 5:15 pm
Wednesdays &
Fridays

Special selected
presentations at
5:30 pm

Feature Film
begins at 6:00 pm

The Digital
Theater is
sponsored by the
Veterans
Remembrance
Committee,
The MW&R Fund
and AMVETS

Neil Remnant,
Movie
Coordinator

For
Information
about the
Veterans
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call: 1-800-
404-VETS

Veterans Home of California
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Yountville, CA 94599-1421

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